

September 30, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24), New York State Assemblywoman RoAnn Destito (D/WF - Rome) and Town of Floyd Supervisor John Buczek announced today that the Educational Media Foundation (EMF) has requested permission from the Town of Floyd to raise its transmitter equipment on a Soule Road radio tower in an effort to alleviate concerns and issues expressed by local residents.

"I am glad that the hard work and persistence of local residents and community leaders has led to action by EMF," **Arcuri said**. "I am also encouraged by EMF's willingness to work with the community on a permanent fix, and will continue to fight alongside the residents of the Town of Floyd to ensure that these actions do in fact put an end to the problems we've seen once and for all."

"I began receiving calls from some residents living near the tower in June," **Destito said**, "I contacted the State Health Department, and have been working with Congressman Arcuri's office, because of the significant health issues these residents have discussed with me. I am cautiously optimistic that raising the height of the transmitter will resolve these problems, but if it does not, then I will request that EMF take further action."

"It is my hope that raising the antennae arms will alleviate nearby residents' concerns," **Buczek said**,

"I am extremely pleased that Congressman Arcuri and Assemblywoman Destito have been directly involved working with the Town to resolve this problem as quickly as possible."

In a letter dated September 17th, 2009, EMF stated that the company would cover the \$10,000 cost to move the antennae arms higher on the tower pending approval by the Town of Floyd. At an August 17th public meeting at the Floyd Town Hall, hosted by Arcuri and Destito, some residents living near the radio tower said they were suffering a variety of health problems, including headaches and stomach problems, and that they continue to experience significant interference with electronic equipment in and around their homes. EMF representatives attended that town hall and responded to the concerns of the citizens in their letter by agreeing to move the radio antennae arms allegedly causing the issues.

Below is the sequence of events that occurred regarding the Floyd Radio Tower over the past several months:

In early June, a concerned citizen contacted Arcuri's office with complaints about the radio tower in Floyd. That day, Arcuri's office contacted the FCC's Washington, DC office to register the complaint. After not receiving a response for several days, Arcuri's office notified the appropriate regional FCC office in Buffalo on June 12th, 2009. The FCC's Regional Office said they would begin working with EMF, the group that owns the tower, on possible remedies to the situation.

At that time, Mid-State Communications conducted a test and noted abnormal radiation readings from the tower in certain areas. Mid-State's results were shared with the FCC, and Arcuri and Destito continued to push the FCC to visit the tower site and take tests of their own.

On June 21st, 2009, several Floyd residents notified Arcuri and Destito's offices that workers had been seen inspecting the tower site. On July 22nd, 2009, Arcuri and Destito received test results from the FCC showing that the levels of radiation being emitted by the tower were not harmful to humans. Arcuri and Destito followed up with EMF in requesting that the company move the problematic radio antennae arms higher on the tower.

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